

GRAUSTARK

#96

1965L, 1965Q, 1966Q, 1966R

3 July 1966

1966Q

"Fall 1907"

EASTERN ALLIANCE DRIVES
FRANCE OUT OF ROME

In this game, Germany is now being played by Donald Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Md. 20906. The stand-by player is Conrad von Metzke, Box 192, Jamul, Calif. 92035

ENGLAND (Jacobs): F North Sea-Yor; F Hel-North Sea; F Bel S F Hel-North Sea.

FRANCE (Latimer): F Lyo-Tyr; F Nap S A Rom; A Rom S F Nap; F Tun-Ion; A Gas-Bre; A Par-Pur; A Mar-Pie; F Eng-North Sea; F Lon S F Eng-North Sea; F Cly-North Atlantic; A Edi holds.

GERMANY (Miller): A Spa-Pie.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Salamo): A Vie-Gal; A Ser S A Bud; A Bud S A Ser; A Tri-Ven; A Ven-Rom.

RUSSIA (Aita): F Norwegian Sea-North Atlantic; F Norway-Norwegian Sea; F St.P-Norway; F Den S ENGLISH F Hel-North Sea; A Sil-Ber; A Mun-Bur; A Pic S A Mun-Bur.

TURKEY (Berman): A Rum S A Bul; A Bul S A Rum; F Ion-Nap; F Gre-Alb; A Apu S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ven-Rom; F Eas-Ion; F Aeg S F Eas-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French army in Rome retreats to Tuscany. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Hol, Kie. (3)

FRANCE: Bro, Edi, Liv, Lon, Mar, Nap, Par, Por, Tun. (9)

GERMANY: Spa. (1)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Rom, Ser, Tri, Ven, Vie. (6)

RUSSIA: Ber, Den, Mos, Mun, Nor, St.P, Swe, War. (8)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Rum, Sov, Smy. (7)

(continued on p. 5)

1966R

"Spring 1902"

AUSTRO-TURKISH ALLIANCE
EXPELS RUSSIANS FROM RUMANIA

ENGLAND (Latimer): A Norway-St.P; F North Sea-Norway; F Norwegian Sea S F North Sea-Norway; F Edi-North Sea.

FRANCE (Berman): A Mun-Kie; F Bel S ENGLISH F North Sea-Hol; A Par-Pic; A Mar-Bur; F Bre-Mid; A Spa holds.

GERMANY (Lebling): A Ruh-Mun; A Kie S A Ruh-Mun; F Den-North Sea; A Hol-Bel.

ITALY (Sullivan): A Apu-Gre; F Ion C A Apu-Gre; A Ven-Pie.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Uhr): A Vie-Gal; A Ser S TURKISH A Bul-Rum; A Bud S TURKISH A Bul-Rum; F Alb-Tri.

RUSSIA (Levinson): F Swe-Norway; F St.P A F Swe-Norway; A War-Sil; A Gal-Bud; A Rum S A Gal-Bud; F Bla holds.

TURKEY (Gemignani): A Con-Bul; A Bul-Rum; A Smy-Arm; F Ank-Bla.

Underlined moves are not possible. Note that, though the Russian attack on Norway is strong enough to dislodge the English army there, it is stood off by the English attack from the North and Norwegian Seas. The retreats were obtained from the players by telephone and are:

FRANCE: A Mun- Ber

RUSSIA: A Rum-Ukr.

There is not yet a stand-by player in 1966R. The entry-fee is \$1.50.

The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is SATURDAY 16 JULY 1966, at NOON.

Press releases for 1966R will be found on p. 6.

Players who live in New York City are requested to send their phone numbers to the Gamesmaster so that retreats can be arranged by phone.

GERMANY RECOVERS, RECRUITS NEW ARMY

Builds and removals after the "Fall 1906" moves are:

ENGLAND (Koning): Builds F Liv.
GERMANY (Smythe): Builds A Mun.

RUSSIA (Swenson): Removes F Bar, A Ukr.
TURKEY (Kuch): Builds F Smy.

Smythe retains control of Germany. The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is noon, SATURDAY 16 JULY 1966.

WARSAW: The Mad Satirical Monk, in response to the "bloodthirsty" Geneva pamphlet GRAUSTARK's infamous commentary, noted: "By actual body count 1,350,723 lives were lost in Europe this year alone. The Empire of Reinsel the Red has been liquidated by Swenson the Sloopy, and that, that Warmonger Boardman has the nerve to ask for a livelier game."

BERLIN: The peoples of Germany are demanding an investigation of the failure of German arms during the fall campaigns. The German High Command is very upset over the charges. Colonel-General von Moltke questions: "We didn't even order any attacks, maneuvers, or defenses. So how may the people condemn us for our failures?" The official reasons given for the failure to order attacks, maneuvers and defenses is that the astrologers advised the Kaiser to sit tight. "The heavens were about to fall," according to one astrologer, Honny Penny.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The hundredth issue of GRAUSTARK is due to be published on 14 August 1966. This issue will mark over three years of active play of postal Diplomacy, which has now grown to 50 games being played among almost 100 players. GRAUSTARK #100 will contain the following features:

- (1) The rules of postal Diplomacy as played in GRAUSTARK.
- (2) A review of the progress of all postal Diplomacy games now going on, or completed since the last such review in GRAUSTARK #87.
- (3) The names of all players of postal Diplomacy, and the games and countries which they are playing. This will bring up to date the listings in GRAUSTARK #71.
- (4) Synopses and supply center charts of all postal Diplomacy games completed between now and the publication date of GRAUSTARK #100.
- (5) A list of all current postal Diplomacy bulletins, with names and addresses of their publishers, and game and subscription fees.
- (6) The text of the proposal for a postal Diplomacy organization.
- (7) All the regular features, including moves and press releases for current games.

Other Gamesmasters and players are invited to send in articles for this special issue. Gamesmasters are requested to check the Postal Diplomacy Rosters in GRAUSTARK to make sure that their own games are being accurately reported.

John Koning reminds Diplomacy players that, just prior to the Cleveland World Science-Fiction Convention, there will be a meeting of Diplomacy players in Youngstown on 31 August 1966. Games will probably be held at Koning's home, 318 S. Belle Vista, Youngstown, Ohio 44509.

New addresses:

Kim & Ovilla Pattee, 537 Warner Ave., McDonald, Ohio 44437

Rodney C. Walker, 1207 E. 16th St., Fremont, Nebr. 68025

Charles Wells (see letter column, p. 3)

Diplomacy players who are interested in science-fiction fandom should write for SO YOU WANT TO BE A FAN? This publication, which has a great deal of information for now s-f fans, is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope from John Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11218. So, while we're on the subject, is GRAUSTARK at 10 issues for \$1.00. If a "S" appears on the address label of this issue, it constitutes an invitation to subscribe.

THE ADVENTURES OF SECRET AGENT O-O-HATE

Chapter IV

"Yes, it's true, Mac," Secret Agent O-O-Hate told his chief an hour later, in the privacy of his fortified office. "Not one, but three memorials have been built in Washington to subversives. You know the Washington Monument?"

"I've heard of it."

"Well, I've just discovered that George Washington was the leader of a National Liberation Front!"

Mac shook his head snerberly. "This pacifist conspiracy goes farther than we thought. And Jefferson?"

"Listen to this!" O-O-Hate took out a piece of paper. "I coded this so it wouldn't fall into unreliable hands. In his first inaugural address in 1801, he said, 'If there be any among us who would dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.'"

"Good man, O-O-Hate!" Mac said. "If those opinions were to get into circulation, it would destroy our whole internal security program. But did you get any more on this Lincoln who seems to be so prominent in the peacenik ranks?"

"Definitely, Mac, and it's worse than we thought. We've already learned that Lincoln was a peacenik in the Mexican War, and sent thousands of marchers into the South for purposes of racial agitation. But now I've got definite evidence that he was a Communist!"

"All those peaceniks and integrationists are really Communists, we know," Mac replied. "But what have you got on this one?"

"Well, on January 1, 1863, he issued a proclamation which confiscated hundreds of millions of dollars worth of private property, all over the South. This confiscation was carried out by force, just like Castro did in Cuba. And not one cent of compensation was ever paid for this property."

Mac shook his head sadly. "Terrible. We might as well be living in Soviet Russia. But I have great confidence in you, O-O-Hate."

"There's just one other thing." O-O-Hate took out a photostat and handed it to his chief. "This is a letter which Lincoln received, congratulating him on this expropriation of private property. And this signature here is--"

"Great work!" Mac cried. "This'll finish off that Lincoln character!"

"Yes, Mac," O-O-Hate concluded, "this red peacenik Lincoln received the personal commendation of the man who must have been his boss -- Karl Marx!"

(Can O-O-Hate stop the Marx-Lincoln pacifist conspiracy? See the astounding climax of this spy adventure in the next issue of GRAUSTARK!)

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

CHARLES WELLS, Fifty Lakes, Minn. (for the next couple of weeks): People should not be searching for the One Perfect Rating System since one rating system cannot take into account all the factors. There is really no way of deciding with finality who is the best player, the second best, and so on.

Your system of center-years I believe will be one of the most important -- without any artificial bonuses for winners -- since it is "natural", just as in baseball such statistics as most home runs in a season are natural. Other natural statistics are the number of games won and number of games in which the player lasted to the end. Also, running statistics where the numbers obtained are divided by the number of games played or the number of game years played will be used.

Now I can predict with confidence that these natural statistics will be used, but it's much harder to say whether artificial systems like Reinsol's will last. Reinsol's system is not illogical, but it does make an a priori judgment about what

kind of performance is desirable and I'm not sure most people agree with the judgment. I particularly like Goldman's suggestion of giving one point to each player for each player he outlasts, but the figure arrived at by simply adding the number of games years a player played in each game might be useful, too, in spite of the fact that the winner and each other player who stayed in the game to the end would get the same

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"Which is worse...

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number of points.

Your comment that persons who take over countries in midstream cause difficulties is valid. Someday, when the International Diplomacy Federation starts conducting tournament games maybe we can base statistics on those games only, instead of the present day mishmash of games conducted under all sorts of various rules. Presumably people will be much less likely to drop out of tournament games. Particularly if the tournament has rules that people who drop out for insufficient cause (like contracting cancer) will be barred from tournament games for a year.

In fact, we can never have a system that gives us a World Champion Diplomacy player until we do have tournaments conducted under strict rules and uniform procedures. Until then we will be in the same sort of mess as the boxing world.

I recently had an idea about a system, some variant of which might have to be adopted in tournaments. This is using the results of already completed games to determine the "handicap" each country has, much as a golfer's handicap is determined

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"...people burning flags..."

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by his previous scores. For example, if the official Tournament scoring is your center-year system plus some bonus for winners, and if in all the previous Tournaments Italy won one third as many games as France, then the bonus for winning with Italy would be three times as big as the bonus for winning with France. And if the cumulative number of center-years for all Italys is, say three-quarters that of France, then each center-year the Italian player gets will count four thirds as much as the ones the Italian player gets.

Something like this will, I think, be necessary, since it will be impossible for a Tournament to be organized so that each player plays each country an equal number of times - that would require too many games.

When whoever organizes Tournaments wishes to decide whether this system or some other will be good or bad, he can try it out by applying it to all the games that have been played so far in the various magazines. In spite of the varying interpretations of the rules and so on, Tournament officials should be able to obtain a good

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"...or flags burning people?"

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idea of how such a system should work.

One last comment: You criticize other people's proposals by applying their proposal to the games so far played and then pointing out that the results simply do not correspond to reality. (I. e., good players rank low and vice versa.) This is not valid. You cannot test ANY system with as few games as we have played so far. When 50 games have been completed in which no more than 500 players have participated, then you can begin to have some idea of how good the system is.

((True. Remember the 1960 World Series, in which the Yankees walked off with the honors in every department of hitting, and yet the Pirates won?))

JAMES LATIMER, 4011 Silver Hill Road, Washington, D. C. 20023: I haven't actually seen the proposals for that Diplomacy organization, but from what I've heard they seem to be going overboard with giving it authority.

DON MILLER, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Md. 20906: Do you allow GRAUSTARK players to publish propaganda under each others' names?

This is

((This is an interesting point. Sometimes a player will produce press releases datelined in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. I have in the past printed them in GRAUSTARK. As England in 1964C, I sent in press releases datelined "London" at a time when that city was under an obviously temporary French occupation. The releases purported to have been smuggled out through porous French battle-lines. I'd appreciate opinions from other Gamesmasters and players on this point. As matters now stand, I got so few press releases for GRAUSTARK games that I'm willing to print anything that comes in.))

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves

JOHN KONING, 318 S. Bello Vista, Youngstown, Ohio 44509: Game 1966AD (Koning vs. Latimer) will give the creators of ratings systems something to think about. For the first five years I played as Russia in the Northern Alliance (England-Russia-Turkey) then in 1966 took over play of the Southern Alliance (France-Italy-Germany (defunct)). When the game ends, if it is to be fitted into any rating system at all, how can this be reflected?

293

((Who knows?))

DON MILLER DEPARTMENT

The following variations on Diplomacy are open in Diplomania: The Game of Anonymity (our most popular variant); Twin-Earth Diplomacy; The Game of the Clans (Scottomacy); Middle-Earth Diplomacy (in several forms); Indianomacy; Pacific Theatre Diplomacy; Mythomacy; Global Diplomacy; 8-, 9-, and 10-man games; Economic Diplomacy; The Game of Chaos; Hyborean Age Diplomacy; various Team games; and many, many others (we told you we were MAD!) -- oh, yes -- and there are always openings in games of plain old regular 7-man Diplomacy. Game fees are \$3 for the first game played in Diplomania, and \$1 for each game thereafter. First-game fee also entitles player to a one-year corresponding membership in Diplomania's sponsoring organization, the Washington Science-Fiction Association, and one year's receipt of the WSFA Journal. If you are a s-f fan as well as a Diplomacy player, you would be hard-pressed to find a better "bargain-package" anywhere!

Don Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Maryland 20906.

POSTAL DIPLOMACY ROSTER

1965T: F - Joel Sattell
(dro SO7)
Mark Owings

1966AE: Conrad von Metzke,
Costaguana
E - Clyde Johnson
F - Wayne Gibbs
G - Gail Schow

I - Louis Curtiss
A - James Latimer
R - Margaret Genignani
T - John Smythe

1965V: R - Alexis Gilliland
(out FO5)

1966Q (continued from p. 1)

Austria-Hungary and Russia may each build one new unit. France must remove 2 units. The deadline for these "Winter 1907" moves is SATURDAY 16 JULY 1966 at NOON.

PARIS: With cries of "Bring back the Bourbons!" and "Put the Bourbon back into France!", Jacques III, Protentious Protender, was swept into office. He declared he would try to seek peace with the countries of Europe, but he doubted if he would be successful in his endeavors, due to the politics of his predecessors. Nonetheless he said that he would still offer the dove of peace to all who might accept it. "In view of the Balkan situation there should be one party," he mused.

SCAPA FLOW: Find the Bismarck!

LONDON: We'll have it known that the King's board is immaculate and will tolerate nothing to the contrary.

LONDON: The ice-free channel through to Murmansk and Archangel was not as large as it was reported to be. In fact, the channel is so narrow that it only allows room for passage of one Superdreadnought. (But then our dreadnoughts are the largest in the world.) Should any vessels be not coming from the opposite direction, they will either have to back water until they are clear of the channel, or else face the might of English 14 inch naval guns. Additional forward turrets have been added on the decks of the lead ships in case any such meetings should take place.

SILVER SPRING, MD.: Help! I'm a prisoner in Postal Diplomacy!

BERLIN: The recent statement of the British Prime Minister concerning German aid to the Danes in their defense against English aggression were greeted with interest by Kaiser Frederik IV and Chancellor Bulow, as well as the Reichstag. "I hardly see how he can criticize our aid of the Danes," said the Chancellor, "when the British Empire has been attempting to subjugate the people of the Orange Free State and Transvaal. All they have gained is another enemy, and the condemnation of all the free people of the world."

DURBAN, CAPE COLONY: The last of defending British forces surrendered today to the forces of Piet Cronje, General of the Army of the Orange Free State. These were the last organized British troops left in the whole of South Africa. President Kruger has lifted the declaration of martial law which has been in effect since November, 1900. He also said that, although the Boers and their allies seek only a route to the sea, and freedom from the harassment of the British, due to the situation in Europe, he has no choice but to occupy the Cape Colony on behalf of their German allies.

LONDON (February 3, 1902): The British Cabinet is privately happy over the resolution of the Boer War "in spite of the loss of face involved", as the Minister of War put it. The rumor is circulating that the reason no new forces were available for the Spring campaign was the South African situation. The British Ambassador is rumored to be negotiating a prisoner-of-war deal with the Reich preparatory to a break with France.

LEMBERG, GALICIA (March 20, 1902, IRNS): Grand Duke Fyodor ordered the II Army into Budapest, Col. Vasili Nikitin, Governor-General of Dacia, announced today, in order to break the back of Austrian expansionism in the Balkans.

CHENSTOKHOV, POLAND (March 20, 1902, PNA): Gen. Count Wsiewlod Jakiniuk, Commander of the III (Polish) Army, agreed to the Kaiser's request for aid in repelling the French invaders, and is expected to have a sizable force outside Munich by April.

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN (March 21, 1902, IRNS): Adm. Risto Svinhufvud, aboard his flagship Bothnia, left here with the I (Baltic) Fleet to engage the English forces in Norway. The Admiral wishes it made known that the government and the navy recognize English sovereignty over Norway but the naval build-up in the North Sea area constitutes a danger to Russian territory. Upon reduction of English forces in the area to those suitable for a normal defense of the area the fleet will leave.

1965L

Not Quite "Winter 1908"

SPEED-UP PLAN FAILS; SPECIAL NOTICE FOLLOWS

The experiment at a one-week deadline for "Winter" moves in this game proved less than effective; Kenneth Davidson lives so far from the Gamesmaster that his build did not get in on time. Therefore, as soon as his "Winter 1908" build arrives, news of the moves this season will be sent out to all four active players. A deadline for "Spring 1909" moves will then be set.

It has been called to the Gamesmaster's attention that the French army in Piedmont was not annihilated in "Fall 1908", but was able to retreat to Tuscany.